

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAJ-01 IO-10 OPIC-03 NIC-01 /079 W

----- 096468

R 031725Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2361

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

REF: LISBON 1882

1. CAMPAIGN OPENS:

FIRST DAY OF OFFICIAL ELECTORAL CAMPAIGNING TOOK PLACE UNEVENT-  
FULLY, WITH OCCASION MARKED BY A SURGE OF POSTERS AND PAINTED  
SLOGANS ON LISBON'S ALREADY WELL COVERED WALLS, STREET LAMPS,  
AND SIDEWALKS, ALL LISBON NEWSPAPERS PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED  
PHOTOGRAPHS OF VARIOUS PARTIES' MILITANTS BUSILY ATTACHING  
PROPAGANDA IN PUBLIC PLACES. RADIO AND TV CARRIED PARTY ANNOUNCE-  
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MENTS ACCORDING TO SCHEDULES, FIXED BY THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL

COMMITTEE.

2. PARTY ACTIVITIES:

(A) PCP- AT MASS RALLY IN DOWNTOWN LISBON COMMUNIST PARTY SECRETARY-GENERAL CUNHAL REFERRED TO "CERTAIN PERSONS" AFTER APRIL 25 WHO, THINING THEY HAD ALL THE ANSWERS IN THEIR POCKETS, IMMEDIATELY BEGAN SPEAKING IN TERMS OF BOURGEOIS DEMOCRACY. BUT THE PEOPLE KNEW THAT EXPLOITATION OF THE WORKING CLASS CONTINUES IN BOURGEOIS DEMOCRACIES, SO THEY HAVE HAD OTHER IDEAS.

(B) MDP-CDE-FOUR STREETCARS RENTED BY PARTY CIRCULATED FOR 16 HOURS THROUGH DOWNTOWN LISBON STREETS, PROVIDING MOBILE PLATFORM FROM WHICH LOUD-SPEAKERS BALRED AND PAMPHLETS SHOWERED.

(C) PS-SOCIALIST LEADER MARIO SOARES, SPEAKING AT RALLY IN PORTALEGRE, ASKED: "WHEN CERTAIN PARTIES OR GROUPS SAY THAT THE CDS, OR PPD, OR PDC, OR PS ARE RIGHTIST PARTIES, WE MUST ASK OURSELVES, IS IT TO BE ONLY THE COMMUNIST PARTY THAT CAN BE THE PART OF THE LEFT?"

(D) PPD- PARTY LEADER MAGALHAES MOTA ADDRESSED RALLY IN TORRES VEDRAS AT WHICH HE CONDEMNED ELITIST ATTITUDES IN PORTUGUESE SOCIETY, CITING MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS AND BUREAUCRATS STUFFED WITH PRIDE IN THEIR POSITIONS, PROFESSORS CONVINCED OF THEIR OWN GENIUS, BOSSES MORE CONRNED WITH THEIR PROPERTY THAN WITH PRODUCTION, REPORTERS AND WRITERS SELF-PROMOTED TO CATEGORY OF "INTELLECTUAL WORKERS." IT, THEREFORE, IS NOT SURPRISING THAT, AFTER APRIL 25, THOSE PREVIOUSLY OPPORESSED HAVE ASSUMED ROLES OF OPPRESSORS OR, AT MINIMUM, HAVE TAKEN ON DOMINEERING ATTITUDES.

(E) CDS-NO PUBLIC MEETINGS HELD. CDS COIMBRA, OFFICE IN A VACANT BUILDING WAS SEARCHED BY POLICE, SUSPICIOUS THAT OPERATION BELONGED TO A CLANDESTINE OPERATION. CDS OFFICIALS RECOVERED OFFICE EQUIPMENT REMOVED BY POLICE AFTER CALLING IN PERSON AT POLICE STATION.

3. MRPP DEMONSTRATES IN OPORTO; ARRESTS MADE:

RALLY CALLED BY OUTLAWED MRPP EVENING APRIL 2 IN OPORTO WAS RELATIVELY TRANQUIL AFFAIR. SOME 350 DEMONSTRATORS SHOWED UP, MARCHING TO PRISON WHERE MRPP SOLDIER STILL DETAINED. TROOPS WERE ON SCENE. AFTER SOME SCUFFLING, TEN ARRESTS WERE MADE, FIVE BEING MRPP SOLDIERS. IN MEANTIME, MRPP ANNOUNCED THAT SEVEN OF ITS MILITANTS WERE ARRESTED IN LISBON AREA, TWO IN CONNECTION WITH ANTI-MILITARY SLOGAN PAINTING AND FIVE INVOLVED WITH THE OCCUPATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF AN ABANDONED HOUSE.

4. ELECTORAL COMMISSION EXHORTS PUBLIC:

PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION OPENED FORMAL CAMPAIGN PERIOD WITH TV APPEAL FOR ALL PORTUGUESE CITIZENS TO STUDY AND THINK OVER TWELVE POLITICAL PARTY CHOICES SO AS TO BE ABLE TO VOTE WISELY AND DELIBERATELY.

5. COMMENT: DESPITE LIMITED ROLE OF CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY,  
PARTIES ARE CAMPAIGNING WITH GUSTO AND SERIOUSNESS. ALTHOUGH  
PARTIES KNOW THAT MOST OF THE IMPORTANT DECISIONS ON THE NEW  
CONSTITUTION WILL BE MADE BY THE AFM BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY MEETS,  
THEY ARE KEENLY AWARE OF THE LEGITIMATIZING FORCE THEY WILL  
ACQUIRE FROM A GOOD SHOWING IN PORTUGAL'S FIRST FREE ELECTIONS  
IN ALMOST 50 YEARS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, ELECTION CANDIDATES, POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY LEADERS, SPEECHES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 APR 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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